

In the claims:

Please cancel and amend the claims as indicated below:

1 (amended). An antimicrobial peptide [compound selected from the group consisting of peptides] having an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO: 1;
SEQ ID NO: 2; and
SEQ ID NO: 3.

2 (cancelled).

3 (amended). A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to Claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

4-10 (cancelled).

11. A method of monitoring fish health comprising:

(a) collecting a biological sample from a fish; and

(b) detecting the level of at least one endogenous endobiotic peptide in said sample, wherein lower levels of endobiotic peptides indicate decreased health in said fish; wherein said endobiotic peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO: 1;
SEQ ID NO: 2; and
SEQ ID NO: 3.

12 (cancelled).

13. A method according to Claim 11, wherein said endobiotic peptide is a histone-like protein.

In re: Noga, et al.
Serial No.: 09/929,788
Filed: August 14, 2001
Page 3

14. A method of monitoring freshness of a fish food product, comprising detecting the level of at least one endogenous endobiotic peptide, wherein lower levels of endobiotic peptides indicate decreased freshness in said fish food product; wherein said endobiotic peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO: 1;

SEQ ID NO: 2; and

SEQ ID NO: 3.

15. A method according to Claim 14, wherein said fish food product is selected from the group consisting of a fresh, refrigerated, or frozen, fish food product.

16-17 (cancelled)

18. A method of screening for compounds useful for treating stress in fish, comprising the steps of:

(a) administering a test compound to a fish;

(b) collecting a biological sample from said fish; and

(c) detecting the level of at least one endogenous endobiotic peptide in said sample, wherein higher levels of endobiotic peptide in said fish as compared to those found in the absence of administration of said test compound indicate said compound is useful in treating stress in said fish, wherein said endobiotic peptide has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

SEQ ID NO: 1;

SEQ ID NO: 2; and

SEQ ID NO: 3.

19-20 (cancelled).

Remarks